of nation-wide ballistic missile defence systems or the creation of the basis for such a defence.

(c) India has consistently opposed weaponisation of outer space and maintains that arms control treaties need to be implemented fully and in good faith to maintain stability. Unilateral actions perceived to be inconsistent with existing treaties may reduce the prospects for further nuclear disarmament, weaken non-proliferation constraints and encourage other nuclear weapon states to reconsider their strategic force modernisation plans.

Extradition Treaties

799. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the countries with which Extradition Treaties signed by Government;

(b) whether it has been proposed to sign Extradition Treaty with Bangladesh Myanmar, Thailand, Bhutan and China;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, country-wise status of understanding on the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The Government of India has signed Extradition Treaties with following eleven countries; Belgium, Bhutan, Canada, Hongkong, Nepal, Netherlands, Russian Federation, Switzerland, UAE, U.K. and USA.

(b) to (d) (i) Bangladesh, Myanmar, and China: There are at present no proposals to sign Extradition Treaties, with Bangladesh, Myanmar and China.

(ii) Thailand: A draft of Extradition Treaty was proposed to Thailand in 1993. Thereafter, two rounds of delegation level talks have been held in 1995 and 1997. However, it has not been possible to finalise the text.

(iii) Bhutan: India signed the Extradition Treaty with Bhutan in 1996. The Treaty is in operation.

Stay of Karmapa Lama on Indian Soil

800. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:
SHRI D.P. YADAV:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
SHRI E. BALANANDAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the Government's policy on the stay of Karmapa Lama on Indian soil; and

(b) what are circumstances under which he came to India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Lama Ugyen Thinley Dorji, recognised by his supporters as the 17th Gyalwa Karmapa, arrived in Dharamsala from Tibet on January 5, 2000. The Chinese side has been requested to share with us details regarding the circumstances of his departure from Tibet for India.

Introduction of Forgery-Proof Passports

801. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA:
SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the wide scale forgery, duplication and counter-feiting of Indian Passports and visas for large scale infiltration of terrorists and other elements into the country through legal channels as well as incidence of hijacking of IA aircraft, there is any proposal with Government to develop/introduce passports which are forgery-proof and can not be duplicated and counter-feited without instant and easy detection on lines similar to those in use in countries like Australia and Malaysia;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the time frame for implementation; and